

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A document digitizing method of digitizing a document in printed form, comprising:
 - optically scanning the document comprising a plurality of pages;
 - forming and storing digitized image files from the plurality of optically scanned pages of the document;
 - optically recognizing under computer control characters in the plurality of optically scanned pages of the document;
 - forming and storing a text files of the optically recognized characters in the plurality of pages of the document; and, after a search of the document for a results page comprising a selected text string is performed,
 - providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a next succeeding page of the results page, wherein each of the next preceding and the next succeeding page is devoid of the selected text string.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which a separate text file is formed for each page of the document.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the document includes plural pages and a separate text file is formed for each page of the document.

Claims 5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which corresponding digitized image files and text files are correlated by a mapping table or algorithm.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which each digitized image file is compressed and of a lossless image file format.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 in which each text file is of a simplified file format based upon ASCII characters.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which optical character recognition is applied to all text characters in the optically scanned document.

Claims 12-17 (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) In a document digitizing system for optically scanning and forming a digitized image file of a document having text characters in printed form, a method of retrieving the digitized image file for a document, comprising:

storing digitized image files for plural printed documents in association with text files of the text characters in each document, the text files being generated by computer optical character recognition of the digitized image files or related image files;

searching the text files to identify any having a selected text string;

providing access to a first digitized image file corresponding to a first text file identified as having the selected text string; and

providing access to at least one of a next successive digital image file corresponding to a next successive text file after the first text file and a next preceding digital image file representing a digitized image of a next preceding text file before the first text file, wherein each of the next successive and the next preceding digital image files is devoid of the selected text string.

Claims 19-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 18 in which searching the text files to identify any having a selected text string includes specifying multiple separate text strings and searching the text files in a batch to identify any text files having any of the separate text strings.
22. (Original) The method of claim 18 in which the text files have file names, the method further comprising storing the file names of the text files identified as having the selected text string.
23. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with computer executable instructions to perform a document digitizing method for digitizing a document in printed form, comprising:
- optically scanning the document comprising a plurality of pages;
 - forming and storing digitized image files from the plurality of optically scanned pages of the document;
 - optically recognizing under computer control characters in the plurality of optically scanned pages of the document;
 - forming and storing text files of the optically recognized characters in the plurality of pages of the document; and, after a search of the document for a results page comprising a selected text string is performed,
 - providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a next succeeding page of the results page, wherein each of the next preceding and the next succeeding page is devoid of the selected text string.
- Claims 24-25. (Cancelled)
26. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 further comprising executable instructions for retrieving a digitized image file for a document based upon a text string in the text file corresponding to the digitized image file.
27. (Withdrawn)

DOCKET NO.: MSFT-3979/160226.1
Application No.: 09/862,728
Office Action Dated: October 4, 2005

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28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, in which each digitized image file is correlated with a corresponding text file and wherein the digitized image file and text file have common file names and are distinguished by appropriate file extensions.